

Bush Fires

Pray with us as we walk with those who have been through the fires.

Pray for those fighting the fires

Thank God for keeping the men and women who are fighting the fires safe. Pray for wisdom for those who are organising the effort from day to day and night to night. Pray for those who have been injured or who are exhausted. Pray that they would sleep well when they come off the fire ground each day. Pray for those who are supporting them, and pray for their families. Thank God for their courage and commitment. Pray for the family of the pilot who lost his life that they would know God's love. Thank God for the easing conditions.

Pray for those caring for others

Thank God for those who are caring for folk who have been affected by the fires. Thank God for the accommodation, food, supplies and friendship that has been so generously offered. Pray that those who need help would be able to accept it, and able to seek it out when it is not obviously offered. Ask God for continued and deepening friendships that have started through the fires.

Pray for accommodation

With so many people without homes, accommodation in the area is stretched. Ask God that as people move from emergency accommodation into more permanent housing that He would ensure that those with the greatest needs get accommodation that will ease their burdens. Think particularly of those families with members with special needs or financial constraints.

Pray for an ease in the weather

Thank our great and merciful God for the rain that He sent. Pray that there would be more, heavy and sustained rain in the days to come. Thank God that the rain delayed the impact of the heat and wind on the fire ground on Wednesday. Pray for protection for the whole State from further fires.

Pray for those who have lost their homes and their neighbours

Pray for children who have lost their homes or have friends who have lost their homes. Pray that they can talk to their parents and friends about how they are feeling.

Pray for teenagers who are feeling anxious and who are grieving for what they have lost or how their friends have been affected. Pray that they would be able to talk to people about how they are feeling. Pray for those who have HSC exams.

Pray for parents as they talk with their children and as they go through the processes and paperwork needed at this time. Pray for patience and energy.

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Pray for the older folk, that they would have the support and care of their families around them, as they cope with the shock and distress of losing their homes. Pray for those who were evacuated that they will settle back in without anxiety.

Pray for those who have not lost their homes, but who live in streets devastated by the fires. Ask God to comfort them. Pray that they will be able to find ways of dealing with loneliness and grief.

Ask God to ease the affect dislocation has on individuals and families and also on the community. Pray that people would be welcomed into new communities or find ways to stay strongly connected to their existing communities.

Pray that we can offer them hope, and ease their burdens in practical ways. Pray that we as God's people would be able to provide them with sustained care over the years to come as they rebuild their homes. Pray for them as they worry about the homes of others that are still under threat.

Pray for your brothers and sisters in Christ

Thank God that His people who have lost their homes know that He loves and cares for them. Thank God for giving them peace and ask Him to sustain them in the weeks to come.

Praise God for the Chaplains, including our RFS Chaplains, who are providing comfort to so many during this time.

Thank God for Justine Jenner as she coordinates the Presbyterian Counselling Services' response. Praise God for the work of Faye, Mary, Jenny & Barb (counsellors) as they have walked with Justine and Brianna McClean around the fire affected streets. Thank Him for the opportunities they have had to speak to people, provide comfort and organise for the delivery of care packages. Pray that we will be able to stay in touch with people and continue our care.

Praise God for the generosity of His people, who have supplied everything from boots (the ground in places has been hot and full of glass and debris), to food, to supplies and offers of cars, accommodation and working parties. Pray for those providing support to others that they would be wise, thoughtful and flexible in how they reach out to those in need, and that they would make Jesus known.

Pray that God would be glorified

Pray that as the fires continue that God would be glorified for His might and mercy, and for the hope that He gives. Pray that loss and dislocation will not destroy people's faith, but deepen it.

Note: We have tried where possible to pray for people by name where they are willing for us to do this. Please forgive us if we miss someone, and let us know so that we can pray for them.

Thank you.